

Appl. No. 10/673,994
Amdt. Dated June 20, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 20, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A urine guiding article for use with a body fluid absorbent article having an ~~absorbent~~ inner surface, said urine guiding article having a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction, said urine guiding article further comprising:

a plurality of ~~individual~~ ribbon-like strips and a sheet-like connecting region;

said plurality of ~~individual~~ ribbon-like strips having a thickness and extending along said longitudinal direction while being arranged in said transverse direction and having proximal end portions that are interconnected by the sheet-like connecting region and ~~free, unattached~~ distal end portions that are not directly connected to one another, wherein the ribbon-like strips are only interconnected to each other at their proximal end portions; and

said sheet-like connecting region that interconnects said proximal end portions of said plurality of ribbon-like strips and attaches onto said ~~absorbent~~ inner surface of said body fluid absorbent article with so that said plurality of ribbon-like strips ~~lying~~ lie on said absorbent inner surface in said longitudinal direction,

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whereby an amount of urine discharged on said plurality of ribbon-like strips is guided therealong from said proximal end portions toward said ~~free, unattached~~ distal end portions.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The article according to claim 1, wherein said ribbon-like strips spread an amount of urine in said longitudinal direction while preventing the spread of urine in said transverse direction in use.

Claim 3 (Original): The article according to claim 1, wherein each of said ribbon-like strips comprises a fibrous assembly in which component fibers are oriented in said longitudinal direction.

Claim 4 (Original): The article according to claim 1, wherein said ribbon-like strips comprise hydrophobic fibers.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The article according to claim 1, wherein said ribbon-like strips comprise hydrophobic fibers and hydrophilic fibers.

Claim 6 (Original): The article according to claim 1, wherein said connecting region is coated on one surface thereof with an adhesive.

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Claim 7 (Currently amended): The article according to claim 6, in combination with a body fluid absorbent article having an inner surface, wherein said adhesive permanently attaches said article to said ~~absorbent~~ inner surface of said body fluid absorbent wearing article.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The article according to claim 6, in combination with a body fluid absorbent article having an inner surface, wherein said adhesive removably attaches said article to one of said ~~absorbent~~ inner surface of said body fluid absorbent wearing article and a body of a wearer.

Claim 9 (Canceled):